

## APRIL 2004

- PAGE 2.** Our Mayor on the Bloomington Convention and Visitors Bureau.
- PAGE 3.** Calming the traffic on residential streets.
- PAGE 4.** Summer youth activities.
- PAGE 5.** Arts and culture.
- PAGE 6.** Curbside Cleanup begins.
- PAGE 7.** Programs that help build community.
- PAGE 8.** Brush up on the *City Code*.

## WANTED YOUR WEB SITE FEEDBACK

YOU CAN HAVE A SAY IN THE REDESIGN of the City's Web site. Register to participate in one of two focus groups at Bloomington Civic Plaza, 1800 West Old Shakopee Road, on **Thursday, April 29, at 2 p.m. or 7 p.m.** To register or for more information contact Communications Administrator Diann Kirby, 952-563-8818, or [dkirby@ci.bloomington.mn.us](mailto:dkirby@ci.bloomington.mn.us).



## OXBORO LIBRARY REOPENS

THE NEWLY RENOVATED OXBORO Library, 8801 Portland Avenue South, reopens with a community celebration of music, refreshments and entertainment on April 17. New features include self-service checkout; a new automated book drop; computers with Internet access and word processing; a new World Languages area; and expanded quiet study areas. For more information, visit [www.hclib.org](http://www.hclib.org).

## POPLAR BRIDGE LEARNING FAIR

COME TO FAMILY FUN NIGHT AND learn all about the environment on **Friday, May 21, from 6 – 8 p.m.** at **Poplar Bridge Elementary**, 8401 Palmer Avenue South. Come celebrate Earth Day.



## SUMMER SPECTRUM

YOUTH, GET READY FOR A FUN-FILLED season of classes, camps, sports and activities. *See page 4.*

## A MIGHTY OAK A LIVING PIECE OF HISTORY...

WHILE REMOVING INVASIVE BUCKTHORN AT WEST BUSH Lake, Parks Maintenance staff and community volunteers uncovered a tree that is estimated to be more than 100 years old. Hidden by an enormous tangle of buckthorn was a bur oak that is approximately 60 feet high and 42 inches in diameter. A long-living majestic tree with an impressive crown, massive trunk and long-reaching branches, the bur oak is a sight to behold. More than 20 truckloads of unwanted plant material were removed. With the buckthorn gone, native flowers and plants in the seedbed around the tree may soon begin to grow. For more information, call 952-563-8762.

*For more on buckthorn, see page 7.*



## ON THE ROAD AGAIN 2004 STREET CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS BEGIN

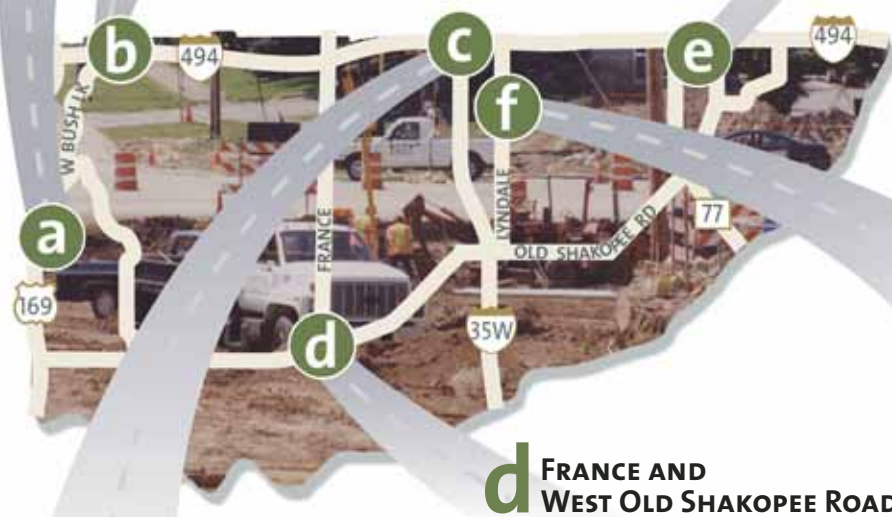
ROAD CONSTRUCTION PAVES THE WAY FOR SAFER, MORE EFFICIENT AND LESS-congested roadways in Bloomington. For more information, visit the City's Web site at [www.ci.bloomington.mn.us](http://www.ci.bloomington.mn.us), keyword: Construction.

### a NEW INTERCHANGES AT TH169

Work will begin this spring to eliminate stoplights and build bridges on TH169. Construction will begin at Pioneer Trail. Once completed, the construction at Bloomington Ferry Road will begin. The bridges will be operational in late 2005.

### b I-494 THIRD LANE PROJECT

This spring, the I-494 Third Lane project will continue west of France. The old railroad bridge at West Bush Lake Road will be removed; a new bridge has already been installed. Completion is scheduled for late summer 2005.



### c AMERICAN BOULEVARD BRIDGE OVER I-35

Construction of a bridge over I-35W in the American Boulevard corridor is scheduled to begin this summer and will take approximately 18 months to complete. The bridge will include two westbound and two eastbound lanes, a concrete median, and an eight-foot wide bike and pedestrian path in each direction. A federal grant will fund 80 percent of construction costs. The City of Bloomington and the Minnesota Department of Transportation will also support the project.

### d FRANCE AND WEST OLD SHAKOPEE ROAD

Reconstruction of the intersection, designed to increase traffic capacity and safety, will begin in April. Improvements that include double left-turn lanes, right-turn lanes and a reconstructed traffic signal will be substantially complete by fall 2004.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON  
1800 WEST OLD SHAKOPEE ROAD  
BLOOMINGTON MN 55431-3027

### e LINDAU LANE FROM TH77 TO 24TH AVENUE

Widening and reconstructing one of Airport South's main links will accommodate the increased traffic due to the Mall of America's Phase II development. The project is funded through assessments to the Mall and Airport South tax increment funds. Work will begin in April and is scheduled for completion in fall 2004.

### 24TH AVENUE TEMPORARY CLOSURE

As part of the construction of light rail to the Mall of America, 24th Avenue between Killebrew Drive and 82nd Street will be closed beginning in April and will reopen in July 2004. Detours will be set up to route travelers around this closure. Light rail is scheduled to begin service in December 2004.

### f LYNDALE AVENUE FROM I-494 TO W. 82ND STREET

Lyndale Avenue will be widened and reconstructed between I-494 and West 82nd Street beginning in June with substantial completion by fall 2004. Improvements will fit with the Lyndale Avenue bridge over I-494 that is tentatively scheduled for reconstruction in 2005-2006. A federal grant will fund 80 percent of street construction costs.

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